THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 74. *Tuesday, Jan. 29, 1822.* *Price 1d.*

DRURY LANE.

LAST night was produced the new "Tragedy" called, *Owen, Prince of Powys, or, Welch Feuds.* The principal characters were as follows:—

King Henry.....Mr. FOOTE.
Lord Powis..... Mr. POPE.
Cadogan .....Mr. POWELL.
Owen, Prince of Powys ..... Mr. KEAN.
Madoc ..... Mr. COOPER.
Tudor ..... Mr. PENLEY.
Gerald ..... Mr. BARNARD.
Theodora.....Miss EDMISTON.

THE PLOT.

King Henry having entered Wales to chastise the rebellious natives holds his Court there, and is attended by several Welch chieftains. Gerald, a Norman Knight, represents Owen, Prince of Powys, (son of Lord Powys, who is present) as the most daring opponent of the English power, and Henry accordingly orders a keen pursuit of him, and a reward for his being taken or killed: and gives consent to Gerald's union with Theodora, who has been betrothed to Owen. Lord Powys represses his feelings at these indignities, and to shew his seeming readiness to submit to Henry's will, invites Gerald, Theodora, and her father, to a banquet in his castle. Theodora is in the mean time mourning the absence, and dangers attending Owen, when Madoc a kinsman of that chieftain, expresses his love for her, which she indignantly rejects. At the banquet which follows, Owen at the head of his troops suddenly appears—he learns that his Theodora is the destined bride of another, and as the only means of securing their union, bears her off, Madoc seeks them out in their retreat, and under pretence of the imminent danger surrounding Owen and his followers, contrives to get the Chieftain's consent that Theodora should for a time take refuge in his Castle. Thither she is borne, and Madoc there presses his suit, which she scorns. The false friend then determines on her death, and directs Tudor, one of his dependants, to cast her into the sea. But Tudor's life had been saved by Owen, and gratitude induces him to preserve her, and to deceive Madoc, who finds out Owen, and informs him that she was false to his love, and had sought the arms of another, to pass her days in rural tranquillity.—

This is the first blow that Madoc inflicts on the hero's peace—he subsequently murders the aged Powys, and burns his Castle—then endeavours to destroy Owen under his own roof, but he is saved by the sudden appearance of Theodora, whom Madoc, for a moment, considers as her spirit—the lovers are rescued—but fresh dangers await them in the field of battle where Madoc follows. Theodora is mortally wounded, and dies in Owen's arms intreating him to live for his country. The Prince maddened at his wrongs, and by his private griefs, rushes towards the foe, but returns a conqueror only to yield his breath in telling that Madoc in the conflict insidiously gave him a mortal wound, which he returned with a death-blow on the monster's head. He then expires exulting in the preservation of his native land

We cannot call this Play a "Tragedy"—it is too dignified a title for it: yet it has poetical beauties, with great faults in the characters and arrangement of the incidents. To-morrow we shall say more of it. There was a very slight opposition to its announcement for to-night.

COVENT GARDEN.

This House was very indifferently attended last night. Previous to the hour of half-price admittance, the Pit was not more than two-thirds filled, and the Boxes and Galleries were as indifferently so. Miss F. Brunton's repetition of the character of *Juliet* did not alter the opinion we had imbibed of her talents since their first exhibition. The want of *prominent* female talent on the London boards, has induced the managers to transplant from the country hot-beds where they are reared, the first shoots of merit which appear, and ere they have acquired a native firmness, like exotics, they are culled for admiration, but soon sicken, wither, and decay. We think that Miss F. Brunton's advancement to the London boards has been too premature. The natural impediment of her voice will ever bar the entrance to the temple of exalted fame; and the absence of every *natural* expression of tenderness is not calculated to excite that sympathy of sentiment, which should exist between the performer and auditor. We shall suspend all further judgment till we see her in another character. As to our opinion of Mr. Macready's *Romeo*, we must refer our readers to our 71th number. Mrs. Sterling and Mr. Horrebow, as *Lady Capulet*, and "*the man of wax*," were extremely bad; the latter looked like an aukward recruit. The Dirge was well arranged, though the introduction of the four *Charley's*, in their red night-caps and huge watch-coats, was not quite apropos.

☞ The first and second volumes are bound, and ready for delivery.

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Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening will be performed (2nd. time) a New Tragedy entitled

Owen, Prince of Powys;

Or, Welsh Feuds.

The Principal Characters by

Mr. KEAN, Mr. COOPER, Mr. PENLEY
Mr. BARNARD, Mr. POPE, Mr. FOOTE,
Mr. POWELL, Mr. BROMLEY,
Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. WILLMOTT, and
Miss EDMISTON,

In Act II. An O D E.

Composed by Sir John STEVENSON

The Bards, Messrs Gibbon, Dobbs, Randall, &c &c.

To conclude with the Entertainment of

Paul and Virginia.

Paul, Madame VESTRIS.

Alambra, Miss COPELAND, Dominique, Mr. KNIGHT,
Captain Tropic, Mr. GATTIE, Don Antonio, Mr. PENLEY.
Diego, Mr. WILLMOTT, Sebastian, Mr. HUGHES,
Sailor, Mr. Howell, Captain of the Guard, Mr. Gibbon.
Officer, Mr. Webster.

Virginia, Miss POVEY,
Jacintha, Miss CUBITT, Mary, Mrs. BLAND.

In Act II. *A DANCE by Miss TREE,*

On Wednesday, There will be no performace.

On Thursday, The Pirate, with the Liar, and the Coronation.

XUM

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

THE EXILE.

Count Ulrick *(the Exile)* Mr. EGERTON,
Daran, Mr. YOUNG, Welzien, Mr. CONNOR
Governor of Siberia, Mr. W. FARREN,
Baron Altradoff, Mr. MEADOWS,
Count Calmar, Mr. DURUSET,
The Patriarch, Mr. HUNT,
The Czarowitz, Master BODEN,
Rimski, Mr. COMER, Servitz, Mr. FAWCETT,
The Empress Elizabeth, Mrs. FAUCIT,
KatharineMrs. TENNANT, Sedona, Mrs. VINING
Alexina, Miss FOOTE,

To conclude with, a Grand, and Comic Pantomime,

Harlequin & Mother Bunch ;
Or, the Yellow Dwarf.

Succession of the Scenery.

THE ENTRANCE to the PALACE OF THE KING of the GOLD MINES.
THE SANDY DESERT,
In the midst of which grows the ORANGE TREE.
THE CHAMBER OF THE PRINCESS.
THE NUPTIAL HALL.
THE CASTLE OF POLISHED STEEL.
The Garden of the Castle. The Sea Port of Golconda.
VIEW FROM MARGATE PIER. STEAM PACKET.
Billingsgate, London Bridge, and the Pool. A Street in London.
OUTSIDE OF WESTMINSTER HALL.
Inside of the Court of King's Bench. Blackheath, near London.
JOHNNY GILPIN's HOUSE, CHEAPSIDE.
The Turnpike-House—Stamford-Hill—The Bell at Edmonton—The Rotunda of the Bank of England.
THE PALACE OF THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES

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n Wednesday will be performed a Grand Selection of Sacred Music.
Thursday, The Tempest.